

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

~~SECRET-CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY~~
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

6534

COUNTRY Germany

DATE: 25X1C

INFO [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Dr. Hermes' Relationships with the Russians
and with Kaiser
25X1A

DIST. 28 January 1947

PAGES

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT

25X1C

LIBRARY COPY

1. According to a well placed source, plans have been made for a high Soviet official to visit Dr. Hermes at Godesberg sometime between 8 and 10 November.
2. A different source claims that Hermes did see "the Russian general in charge of Western German affairs" while he was in Berlin. The identity of the general is not reported. The same source also states that a kind of conciliation between Hermes and Kaiser was brought about during the former's visit to Berlin. However, relations between the two men appear to remain strained. Source believes that a complete break is eventually inevitable, because of Hermes' desire to play a political role of importance, his belief that he can bring about a merger between the East and West, and his desire to become the top CDU leader in all the zones.
3. Hermes was dissuaded by Kaiser from attempting to head the Inter-zonal Commission which he wanted to organize. Furthermore, Kaiser made it clear that such an arrangement would only antagonize Adenauer, who is not a political friend of Hermes. Kaiser also persuaded Hermes to take an active part in the Bauerngenossenschaften (Farmers' Cooperatives) in the western zones. Because Hermes is a former land owner and was active before 1933 in Farmers' Cooperatives, it is quite possible he could become the leader of the farm group in the CDU.
4. It is believed, however, in the Central Committee of the CDU that sooner or later Hermes will break his promise and attempt to become the supreme leader of the CDU. Source claims Hermes is extremely ambitious and is unwilling to recognize the necessity of keeping out of politics in the Russian Zone.

EXEMPTED FROM DECLASSIFICATION ACTION

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY

WARNING NOTICE: THIS DISTRIBUTION LISTING MUST BE
EXCISED BEFORE APPROVED FOR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT.

Extracted by F.I.R.